

## Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN ARA-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-07 ADP-00 /011 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

S E C R E T STATE 042997

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR GY UN PN

SUBJ: PANAMA SC MEETING

FOL SENT ACTION SECSTATE WASHDC MARCH 6, 1973 FROM GEORGETOWN  
REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE QUOTE

S E C R E T GEORGETOWN 0330

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR GY UN PN

SUBJECT: PANAMA SC MEETING

REF: ( A) STATE 039090 ( B) PANAMA 1036

1. AS REQUESTED BY FORMER ASST SEC MEYER IN REFTEL, I HAD ONE  
MORE GO AT FONMIN S. S. RAMPHAL YESTERDAY AFTERNOON ON SUBJECT  
HIS ATTENDANCE AT PANAMA SEC MEETING. I TALKED TO HIM BLUNTLY,  
GIVING HIM FULL FLAVOR AND DETAILS OF REFTEL WHILE STRESSING  
THAT THESE VIEWS CAME FROM SOMEONE WHO HAD LONG CONSIDERED  
HIMSELF BE PERSONAL FRIEND AND WHO HAD SHOWN CONSIDERABLE  
SYMPATHY FOR AND UNDERSTANDING OF GUYANA'S PROBLEMS AND

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ASPIRATIONS OVER THE YEARS. BELIEVE RAMPHAL WAS A BIT SHOCKED. CONCEDED US POSITION " VERY STRONG" AND APPEARED WORRIED. NVERTHELESS, WHILE HE REITERATED THAT WOULD NOT GO TO PANAMA IF NO OTHER LA FONMINS DID SO AND THAT WOULD TRY RETAIN APPEARANCE OF FLEXIBILITY AS LONG AS POSSIBLE TO SEE WHAT OTHERS MIGHT DO, SAID IT WAS TOO LATE FOR GOG TO REVERSE ITSELF. WHEN HIS ATTENDANCE DISCUSSED AT CABINET LAST WEEK ONLY HE HAD EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ( BY SETTING FORTH US VIEWS). ANY EFFORT CHANGE DECISION AT THIS LATE DATE WLD HAVE INTERNAL AS WELL AS INTERNATIONAL REPERCUSSIONS.

2. RAMPHAL ASSERTED HE HAD NOT TOLD PANAMANIAN REPRESENTATIVE DEAN BUTCHER THAT HE DEFINITELY WOULD ATTEND SC MEETING. RATHER HAD SAID THIS PROBABLE BUT SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION WHEN HE HEARD FROM PANAMANIAN FONMIN TACK EXACTLY WHO ELSE WAS DEFINITELY GOING. UP TO NOW HE HAS NOT HEARD ANYTHING MORE.

3. RAMPHAL' S POSITION AT THIS POINT IN TIME, AND THAT OF BURNHAM AND GOG FOR THAT MATTER, UNDOUBTEDLY COLORED BY FOLLOWING MISCELLANY WHICH HE PASSED ON TO ME:

A) CUBA' S UN PERMREP TOLD RASHLEIGH JACKSON, GUYANA' S UN REP, THAT FONMIN ROA HAD NOT YET MADE UP HIS MIND WHETHER TO GO TO PANAMA. NEVERTHELESS, ROA ASKED RAMPHAL BE INFORMED THAT HE WOULD LOOK FORWARD TO A CHANCE FOR BILATERAL TALKS SHOULD THEIR PATHS CROSS IN PANAMA. ( RAMPHAL READ ME JACKSON' S LETTER STATING THIS.)

B) JAMAICA' S MINISTER OF STATE DUDLEY THOMPSON CALLED RAMPHAL OVER WEEKEND TO COMPARE NOTES ON PLANS. INDICATED HE HAD BEEN CONVINCED HE SHOULD GO BY BUTCHER AND YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR MOJSOV, ALTHOUGH HAD NOT YET CHECKED IT OUT WITH PRIME MINISTER MANELY. WHEN RAMPHAL TOLD THOMPSON HE PROBABLY WOULD ATTEND LATTER SAID " FINE-- WHY DON' T YOU ANNOUNCE THAT WE ARE BOTH GOING." RAMPHAL TOLD ME HE DEMURRED ON EXCUSE GOG' S DECISION NOT YET FINAL.

C) GUYANA' S AMBASSADOR IN CARACAS REPORTED THAT PANAMANIAN AMBASSADOR THERE HAD TOLD HIM FONMINS OF COLOMBIA, HONDURAS, EL SALVADOR, NICARAGUA AND COSTA RICA WOULD DEFINITELY ATTEND SC MEETING. ( NOTE SIMILARITY TO WHAT

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MOJSOV TOLD RAMPHAL.) ALSO REPORTED THAT VENEZUELA'S CALVANI PROBABLY WOULD GO TOO.

D) RAMPHAL HAS ENGLISH TEXT OF PROPOSED SC RESOLUTION DRAFTED BY MEXICO (ROBLES) WHICH APPARENTLY BEING CIRCULATED THROUGH HEMISPHERE. I HAD CHANCE ONLY GLANCE AT IT, BUT IT SEEMED RELATIVELY INNOCUOUS AND DID NOT EXPLICITLY MENTION CANAL OR US- PANAMANIAN BILATERAL PROBLEMS. RAMPHAL INCLINED USE THIS TO SUPPORT CONTENTION THAT NO BIG THING WOULD BE MADE OF CANAL ISSUE DURING SC MEETING AND THAT US PERHAPS OVERLY SENSITIVE TO POTENTIAL FOR ANTI- US ATTACKS, WHICH ON BASIS MOJSOV'S ASS-

URANCES HE DID NOT EXPECT. (I POINTED OUT CANAL ISSUE WAS CONTINUING ONE AND THAT PANAMA SEEMED BE LAYING GROUNDWORK FOR FOLLOW- UP ANTI- US MANEUVERS, DRAWING ON REF B.)

E) RAMPHAL EXPECTS FUTURE OF BELIZE TO COME UNDER DISCUSSION. CALVANI WILL UNDOUBTEDLY SUPPORT GUATEMALA, MAKING IT IMPERATIVE THAT HE BE THERE TO COUNTER ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT BE SAID BEARING ON GUYANA - VENEZUELA BORDER DISPUTE. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE WILL TAKE OCCASION DEPLORE GUYANA'S CONTINUED EXCLUSION FROM REGIONAL MECHANISMS SUCH AS IBD, DENUCLEARIZATION TREATY AND CECLA (HE SAID GUYANA NOT MUCH INTERESTED IN OAS ITSELF AT THIS TIME).

4. COMMENT: AS FORESEEN BY MR. MEYER, IT IS PROBABLE THAT GOG WILL STICK BY DECISION BE REPRESENTED AT PANAMA AT FONMIN LEVEL UNLESS NO OTHER LA FONMINS ATTEND. NEVERTHELESS, EXERCISE MAY HAVE BEEN USEFUL FOR THE FUTURE IN A GENERAL SENSE IN THAT IT IMPRESSED ON RAMPHAL OUR ACUTE AWARENESS THAT THERE HAS BEEN NOTABLE LACK OF COOPERATION WITH US ON THE PART OF GUYANA OF LATE. HE CAN BE EXPECTED PASS THIS ON TO BURNHAM AND OTHERS. KING UNQUOTE ROGERS

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